

REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 1, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response thereto. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

By this amendment, claims 6 and 8-12 are canceled. Thus, claims 1-4 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the indication by the Examiner that Claims 1-4 are allowed.

Objections to the Claims

Claim 11 is objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form. Claim 11 has been canceled, rendering the objection moot. Applicants thus respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 112, second paragraph

Claims 9, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. Claims 6, 8, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rogers (U.S. Patent No. 6,081,071). Claims 6, 8-10, and 12 have been canceled, rendering these rejections moot. Applicants thus respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

Conclusion

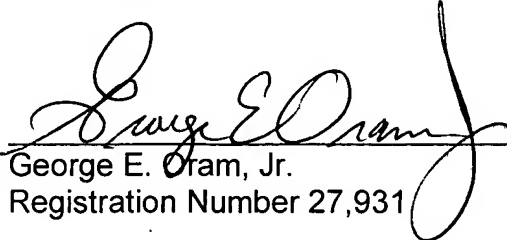
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, an appropriate extension of time is requested. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account Number 01-2300, **referencing Docket Number 107156-00231**.

Respectfully submitted,

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